

1. An apparatus for creating an electronic description of a geographic site, the apparatus comprising:

an electronic drafting program configured to import an image file, the image file comprising a plurality of image elements, and to electronically trace at least one of the image elements, creating a tracing element;

a digitization module configured to associate definition data with the image element, the definition data at least partially descriptive of the image element; and

a capture module configured to store the tracing element and the definition data in a capture file, the capture module within one of the electronic drafting program and the digitization module.

2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the digitization module further comprises a definition module configured to access the definition data from a definition data file.

3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the digitization module further comprises an identification module configured to identify each of the plurality of image elements as one of a primary image element, a secondary image element, or a tertiary image element.

4. The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the digitization module further comprises a key reference module configured to identify a key reference element, the key reference element selected from one of the primary image elements.

5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the image element is a primary image element and the tracing image is a primary tracing image.

6. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the image element is a secondary image element and the tracing image is a secondary tracing image.

7. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the image file represents a composite satellite photograph of a golf course and the definition data comprises at least one of a hole number, a hole par, and a hole distance.

8. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the image element represents one of a tee box, a fairway, a putting green, a cup, a sand trap, a water hazard, a tree, a building, a road, and a cart path.

9. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a rendering module configured to create a rendering policy, the rendering policy descriptive of the rendering procedure employed to render the tracing element.

10. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a graphical processing module configured to access the capture file and convert the capture file to a user file.

11. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the user file is one of a print file, a compressed user file, a library database, and a graphic file.

12. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the graphical processing module comprises a communication module communicate a representation of the user file to a user via a user interface device.

13. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the graphical processing module comprises an offset module, the offset module configured to calculate an element offset, the element offset relative from the tracing element to a key reference element.

14. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the graphical processing module comprises an offset module, the offset module configured to calculate an element offset, the element offset relative from the tracing element to another tracing element.

15. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the graphical processing module is further configured to associate an element offset with the tracing element and to store the tracing element and the element offset in the user file.

16. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the graphical processing module comprises a parse module, the parse module configured to parse the tracing element and to discard a non-critical data point, wherein discarding a non-critical data point comprises identifying a best fit curve to approximate the tracing image and discarding a data point that is not required to describe the best fit curve.

17. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the graphical processing module comprises a compression module, the compression module configured to compress the user file and to create a compressed user file.

18. A system for communicating an electronic description of a geographic site, the system comprising:

a wireless communication network;
a distribution server configured to store one or more user files; and
a user interface apparatus configured to communicate with the distribution server via the wireless communication network and to receive the one or more compressed user files, the compressed user files corresponding to the user files on the distribution server and descriptive of a geographic site.

19. The system of claim 18, wherein the user interface apparatus comprises a file update module, the file update module configured to communicate with the distribution server via the wireless communication network and to receive a user update file to update the user file.

20. The system of claim 18, wherein the user interface apparatus comprises a menu navigation module, the menu navigation module configured to create and display a hierarchical menu, the menu configured to facilitate user navigation and selection using a selector having both rotational and depressive control.

21. The system of claim 18, wherein the user interface apparatus comprises a selector, the selector having both rotational control and depressive control, the selector configured to allow a user to manipulate the user interface apparatus, including menu navigation, menu selection, graphical display, and user input, using a single hand.

22. The system of claim 18, wherein the user interface apparatus comprises a distance module, the distance module configured to display a control point and at least one

distance marker graphically represented on the user interface apparatus, to allow a user to adjust the distance marker on the user interface apparatus, and to calculate a distance between the control point and the distance marker.

23. The system of claim 22, wherein the distance marker is an arcuate line having an origin at the control point and having an adjustable arc length.

24. A computer readable storage medium comprising computer readable code configured to carry out a method for creating an electronic description of a geographic site, the method comprising:

importing an image file, the image file having a plurality of image elements;

electronically tracing at least one of the image elements, creating a tracing element;

associating definition data with the image element, the definition data at least partially descriptive of the image element; and

storing the tracing element and the definition data in a capture file.

25. The computer readable storage medium of claim 24, wherein the method further comprises identifying the plurality of image elements and categorizing each of the plurality of image elements as one of a primary image element, a secondary image element, or a tertiary image element.

26. The computer readable storage medium of claim 24, wherein the method further comprises associating an element offset with the tracing element and storing the tracing element and the element offset in a user file, the element offset representing a distance between the tracing element and one of a key element or another tracing element.

27. The computer readable storage medium of claim 24, wherein the method further comprises parsing the tracing element and discarding a non-critical data point, wherein discarding a non-critical data point comprises identifying a best fit curve to approximate the tracing image and discarding a data point that is not required to describe the best fit curve.

28. The computer readable storage medium of claim 24, wherein the method further comprises creating a user file from the capture file, compressing the user file, and communicating the user file from a distribution server to a user interface apparatus via a wireless communication channel.

29. The computer readable storage medium of claim 24, wherein the method further comprises displaying a representation of the user file on the user interface apparatus and facilitating user navigation of a hierarchical menu and selection of menu items using a selector having both rotational and depressive control, the selector configured to allow a user to manipulate the user interface apparatus, including menu navigation, menu selection, graphical display, and user input, using a single hand.

30. A method for communicating an electronic description of a geographic site, the process comprising:

importing an image file, the image file having a plurality of image elements;

accessing a plurality of definition data, the definition data at least partially descriptive of the image elements in the image file;

identifying the plurality of image elements and categorizing each of the plurality of image elements as one of a primary image element, a secondary image element, or a tertiary image element;

identifying a key reference element, the key reference element selected from one of the primary image elements;

electronically tracing each of the primary image elements to create a corresponding primary tracing element;

electronically tracing each of the secondary image elements to create a corresponding secondary tracing element;

associating a portion of the definition data with at least one of the tracing elements;

storing the tracing elements and associated definition data in a capture file;

accessing a capture file, the capture file comprising a key reference element and at least one primary tracing element;

identifying the key reference element, the key reference element having a key reference offset from a known capture file reference;

identifying the primary tracing element;

calculating an element offset, the element offset relative from the primary tracing element to the key reference element;

associating the element offset with the primary tracing element;

parsing the primary tracing element and discarding a non-critical data point;

wherein discarding comprises identifying a best fit curve to approximate the tracing image and discarding a data element that is not required to describe the best fit curve;

storing the key reference element, the parsed primary tracing element, and the element offset in a user file;

compressing the user file to create a compressed user file;

distributing a compressed user file to a user, the compressed user file from a distribution server to a user interface apparatus via a wireless communication channel;

distributing a user update file to the user at a point of sale via a wireless communication channel;